



**BOARD OF HEARING AND SPEECH
MEETING MINUTES
February 4, 2005**

LOCATION: Department of Health
Point Plaza East, Room 152
310 Israel Rd. SE
Tumwater, WA 98501

BOARD MEMBERS:

Lesly Loiseau, A.U.D., Chair
Laurie Anderson, Vice Chair
Charles V. Fulmer
Don Nelson
Penny Allen
Ken Pope
Rudy Gahler, M.D.
Kim Coy
Rhonda Friedlander (Absent)

STAFF:

Robert Nicoloff, Executive Director
Karen Kelley, Program Manager
Tammy Benson, Program Manager
Ericka Brown, Administrative Assistant
Megan McCormack, Program Representative
Judy Young, DOH Staff Attorney

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jim Robinson
Charlotte Pope
Sandy Jeghers, NW Lions Foundation
Lynn Burne
Brian Johnson, Group Health
Dawnell Porcaro, Group Health

**ASSISTANT ATTORNEY
GENERAL (AAG):**

Gail Yu, AAG Advisor

1. CALL TO ORDER

Lesly Loiseau, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. The agenda was approved as presented. The November 5, 2004 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

2. NEW MEMBER AND STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

Karen Kelley introduced new board member Charles Fulmer, AUD, CCA, new assistant Megan McCormack, and Tammy Benson, Program Manager in Health Professions Section 7, case management section.

3. PROGRAM REPORT

- A. Karen Kelley provided a budget overview, explaining current revenue and expenditures for the Hearing and Speech program. Ms. Kelley explained that she will be looking into the high consolidated mail charges.
- B. Karen Kelley discussed HB 1198, which is an ACT relating to speech-language pathologists and audiologists.
- C. Ericka Brown provided the Board with current licensing statistics. The current statistics show 284 licensed fitter/dispensers, 343 licensed audiologists, 11 audiology interim permit holders, 1191 licensed speech-language pathologists and 54 speech-language pathology interim permit holders.
- D. Penny Allen brought it to the boards attention that she had received her reappointment letter from the Governors Office, reappointing her as public member for a second term. Ms. Kelley will contact the policy office regarding the other two public member positions.
- E. Bob Nicoloff discussed the benefits of being a member of the National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (NCSB), board members voted to join NCSB, and approved attendance for one member to attend the annual conference.
- F. Bob discussed materials he obtained at the NCSB conference last year. He distributed an examination for audiologists on Maryland Law and Regulations.
- G. Karen proposed to move the May 6 meeting to the following week, May 12 for evening committee meetings and May 13 for the Board meeting to be held at the Ramada Inn in Spokane.
- H. Karen provided board members with a list of acronyms.
- I. Karen informed board members that she will be participating in the Ears Hearing and Beyond on Saturday April 9, 2005.

4. INTERIM PERMIT EXPIRATION

Board members reviewed and discussed a draft policy that would extend the expiration date of an interim permit up to 24 months. Board members adopted the policy.

5. COMPLAINT/DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE REPORT

Ericka Brown reported that the disciplinary case load as of February 4, 2005 includes, 16 open cases; 0 of those cases are in assessment, 7 cases are in investigations, 8 cases are in case disposition and 1 case is in prepare default order status. The Board closed 19 cases from June 1, 2004 through January 30, 2005.

6. DISCIPLINARY PRESENTATION

Respondent: Mir Jafarinejad Case Number: 2000-04-0002HA
Staff Attorney: Judy Young

The Reinstatement Order was approved as presented.

7. RULES COMMITTEE REPORT

Board members reviewed and approved the draft language in the following rules:

WAC 246-828-025 Definitions
WAC 246-828-045 Interim permit requirements
WAC 246-828-075 Student supervisors-scope and definitions

Ms. Kelley will prepare the paperwork and forward to the Policy Office for a Small Business Economic Impact Statement and a significant analysis.

Ms. Kelley is also working on preparing the documentation for other rule packages that board members have approved.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Sandy Jeghers, NW Lions Foundation, informed board members about the "AUDIENT" program, an alliance for Accessible Hearing Care. He explained the program and informed board members that he wanted to be sure that the Lions Club is in compliance with the laws and rules. There were many questions and concerns from board members. AAG Advisor, Gail Yu asked that information be gathered and the topic added to the May meeting agenda.
2. Lynne Byrne spoke to the board about her concern regarding the AUDIENT program. She feels that the policies of this program are not in the best interest of the patient, and do not comply with the Board of Hearing and Speech laws and rules.

3. Dawnell Porcaro and Brian Johnson informed board members of the importance of interim permits, and the policy that board members approved.

9. EXAMINATION/EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Board members stated their concern about the possible changes to the hearing instrument fitter/dispenser exam. They want to review the exam to see if the questions are updated to reflect the education and training being received in the Hearing Instrument Fitter/Dispenser two year degree programs.

Ericka Brown reported that one candidate took the examination on December 7, 2004. The candidate did not pass the examination.

10. OTHER ISSUES

There were no other issues.

11. REVIEW OF MEETING

Ericka Brown reviewed Board decisions made at this meeting.

12. PLANNING FOR NEXT MEETING

The next Committee Meetings are scheduled for the evening of May 12 and the next Board Meeting is scheduled for the morning of May 13 at the Ramada Inn in Spokane.

13. ADJOURMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Recorder: _____
Megan McCormack, Program Representative

Submitted by: _____
Karen Kelley, Program Manager

Approved by: _____
Lesly Loiseau, Chair